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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named
Inventor : Jing Gui

Appln. No.: 09/761,348

Filed : January 16, 2001

For : PRESSURE RELIEF TRENCHES FOR
SLIP HEADS TO REDUCE STICKTION

Docket No.: S01.12-0695

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A
Group Art Unit: 2652

Examiner: R. Tupper

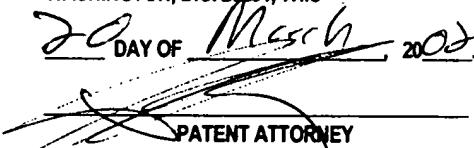
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING
SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS

20 DAY OF March 2002


PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action
mailed on September 20, 2001. Please amend the above-identified
application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraphs for insertion starting at Page 16, line 1:

A slider for supporting transducer elements for a data storage system comprising: a rigid member including opposed leading and trailing edges and opposed upper and lower surfaces, the lower surface including a raised bearing, a trailing edge surface being adapted to support a transducer element; landing pads extending from the raised bearing and adapted to define a contact interface with a disc surface; and at least one pressure relief trench formed in the raised bearing proximate to a contact interface position between the trailing edge of the slider and disc surface, the trench being sized to reduce capillary pressure of the meniscus along the disc surface. The slider of above wherein the slider may include a center rail and the center rail includes a pressure relief trench. The slider of above may include a transversely aligned pressure relief trench. The slider of above